

[English]

### **Rise in Price of Coconut Oil**

903. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The percentage of rise in the prices of coconut oil at the end of June, 1991;

(b) the main causes therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to contain the prices of coconut oil and to ensure its availability to the consumers at a reasonable rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-DIN AHMED): (a) The wholesale price index number of coconut oil for the month of June, 1991 was higher by 5.6% over January, 1991.

(b) The main factors contributing to the rise in the prices of coconut oil are attributed to general upsurge in edible oil prices, virtual stagnation in coconut oil production coupled with gap between demand and supply (edible oil as a whole) because of limited imports of edible oils.

(c) For augmenting the country's production of coconut oil, Government has set up a Coconut Development Board for promoting coconut cultivation/development. Efforts are being made for improving the production by using modern techniques, i.e., Tissue Culture etc. Remunerative support prices are being announced annually. In order to give thrust for its development, coconut has been declared as an Oilseed. For improving the availability to indigenous oils, Government is continuing with oilseed production programme, oilseeds projects of N.D.D.B., setting up of Technology Mission on Oilseeds, intensification of research.

Government has also decided to allow blending of any two edible oils including coconut oil.

### **Central Agencies Working for Rural Development**

904. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: the details of the Central agencies presently working for rural development in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): The Poverty Alleviation and other Programmes of this Ministry are normally implemented by the State Governments. However, there are two Central Agencies under this Ministry which are working for specific aspects of rural development. Their details are given below:

i) The Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART):

The Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) was registered under the Societies Registration Act in September, 1986 and is working under the aegis of the Ministry of Rural Development. The primary functions of the Council is to encourage, promote and assist voluntary action in the implementation of projects for the enhancement of rural prosperity. In pursuance of this objective, the Council has been giving financial and technical assistance to voluntary agencies for implementing projects under various Schemes. The Council is also engaged in the promotion/application and spread of science and technology in the villages.

ii) National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD):

The National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) at Hyderabad was established in 1977. It is the national apex organisation for training, research and consultancy in the field of rural development. It also has a regional centre at Guwahati.

#### Target for Atomic Energy Generation

905. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU:  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target for atomic energy generation was fixed at 10,000 megawatts by the end of the year 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, in view of the recent economic crisis this target is proposed to be revised;

(c) if so, the new target fixed for atomic energy generation;

(d) the total installed capacity of atomic energy generation;

(e) whether the production has been according to this capacity;

(f) if not, the percentage of production in the year 1990-91 as compared to the capacity; and

(g) the cost of power so generated therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. This target was set in January 1984 as per the Nuclear Power Profile of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) for the period 1985-2000.

(b) Yes, Sir. The target has been revised taking into account the present re-

source crunch and status of the implementation of the programme.

(c) As per the proposals for the 8th Five Year Plan submitted by Deptt. of Atomic Energy to the Planning Commission, a target of achieving a total installed capacity of 7700 MWe by the year 2002 through nuclear power is envisaged. A clear position in this regard will emerge after finalisation of the 8th Five Year Plan.

(d) The present rerated installed capacity including the second unit of Narora Atomic Power Station which achieved criticality in October 1991 is 1500 MWe.

(e) and (f). Actual average production is normally a percentage of installed capacity in any power station including nuclear. This percentage known as capacity factor varies from year to year and unit to unit due to forced and planned, outages and lower operational power levels compared to rated values for different reasons. The total annual capacity factor of nuclear power stations in commercial operational units excluding the first unit of Rajasthan station in the financial year 1990-91 was about 60% of the rated installed capacity that prevailed during the year. The operational power level of the first unit of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station has been restricted to about 100 MWe compared to the original installed capacity of 220 MWe consequent on the mechanical sealing of the light water leak in the south end shield of the reactor.

(g) The cost of generation of electricity from the nuclear power station presently in operation varies from about 55 to 100 paise/KWh as of June 1991 including a return of 12% and depreciation of 3.6% on capital employed, at a normative capacity factor of 62.8%.